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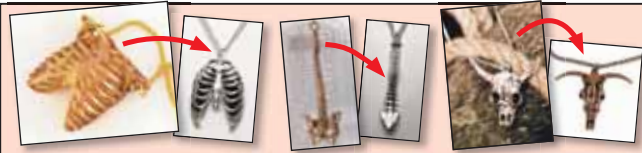
# The Brooklyn Paper

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DOWNTOWN, PARK SLOPE & BAY RIDGE EDITIONS

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## Bling there, done that

**Urban Outfitters accused of copying local's designs**

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

Call them Urban Counterfeiters! Two vendors at the Brooklyn Flea have noticed a line of jewelry called "Waylaid" from the national retailer Urban Outfitters that is strikingly similar to their own creations.

Lillian Crowe, a 27-year-old jewelry designer in her first year of business, sells jewelry featuring a rib cage, a spine and the skull of a bull — yet recently discovered shockingly similar knockoffs in the new Urban Outfitters catalog online.

Crowe said she unveiled her designs

last March. The release date of Urban's designs could not be confirmed, but it could not have been earlier than November, 2009, based on online comments.

To top it off, Crowe noticed three other designs that she said were similar to those of other designers. One was a shark jaw necklace — on the market since fall 2008 — by a designer who calls her line, "Species by the Thousands."

"People are bound to have the same ideas, but if it's so many different ideas..." said Crowe, her voice trailing off.

See URBAN on page 10



Lillian Crowe believes her designs were plagiarized by Urban Outfitters. (At top) Examples of Crowe's jewelry (left) and the mass market versions (right).



Community Newspaper Group's legendary intern Ben Kochman tried a hookah in pursuit of this story.

## Pipe down!

**Bay Ridge board votes for crackdown on hookah bars**

By Gary Buiso  
The Brooklyn Paper

Bay Ridge civic leaders are demanding that the city douse the neighborhood's allegedly handsome hookah bars and cafes.

Opponents say that the Arab-influenced hangout spots create a health hazard for patrons; are attracting teenagers who should be in smoke-free environments; and are causing a nuisance for nearby residents, who are forced to endure a sickly sweet smog produced by the water pipes, which have cultural significance in the Arab world.

"It's looking kids and wasting their time," said Habib Joudah, a member of Community Board 10 and board member with the Arab American Association on Fifth and Ovington Aves.

**Our intern gets high**  
SEE PAGE 10

nues, whose members have been complaining about the secondhand smoke produced by Ramala Coffee Shop, a neighboring hookah lounge. "God only knows what they are loading in these things."

No deity need be evoked: Hookah bar owners say that their smokable mix, called shisha, consists of dried fruits, molasses, honey and sometimes tobacco.

After some local complaints, the community board voted unanimously last week for a series of measures that

See HOOKAH on page 10

## First Walmart protest

**Foes lambast superstore — but rally is tiny**

By Stephen Witt  
The Brooklyn Paper

A smaller-than-expected crowd showed up last week at Starrett City to protest Walmart's proposed first New York City superstore.

Organizers of the rally last Thursday at the nation's largest low- and moderate-income housing complex predicted a turnout of 100 people, but about half that attended — many holding placards decrying the big-box retail giant's alleged history of employee abuses, dis-

**WAR★MART**  
BROOKLYN'S BIG BOX BATTLE

crimination and wage theft.

"The last thing we need is a Walmart coming in to take over the neighborhood and give out minimum-wage jobs," said Starrett City resident Maria Maisonet. "We need real jobs that pay living wages, not ones that wouldn't even allow us to pay our rent."

Starrett City resident Sofia Rosenblum said she was at the protest out of worry it would affect her current job. "I work for Pathmark and my job is on the line," said Rosenblum. "I represent the union. Walmart doesn't treat its workers well."

Rosenblum admitted that she occasionally shops at the non-union Target located at the nearby Gateway shopping center at Jamaica Bay — adjacent to the undeveloped Gateway II site that See WARMART on page 9



A protester decries Walmart's proposed first New York City superstore in Starrett City.

## A PUPPY PARADISE

**Obama inspired her quest for South Slope dog run**

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

He may not have followed through on his promise for comprehensive immigration reform, or reduced the nation's dependence on oil — but at least President Obama can point to a future dog park in the South Slope as one of his accomplishments.

Community Board 7 has signed off on a dog run in the "pocket park" on 18th Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues — and dog lover Pam Brown said she became inspired to push for the pup playpen after watching Obama's inauguration in 2008.

"I was inspired by it," said Brown. "I thought, 'Regardless



YES, SHE CAN! Inspired by President Obama, Pam Brown worked to create a South Slope dog run. Kai approves.

of any other stuff in this world, I really want to do something to improve the community.' Immediately, a dog park came to mind."

Now, pending final approval from the Parks Department, the See DOGS on page 2

## L is for lemon

**MTA brings back hated shuttle buses**

By Aaron Short  
The Brooklyn Paper

Better catch that midnight train to Bushwick — because there won't be another one after it.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority announced this week that L-train service from the Lorimer Street to Myrtle-Wyckoff stations will be suspended on weekday nights until June 4 — and replaced by the much-hated shuttle bus.

The subway shortfall starts at 11:30 p.m. Service will be out until 5 a.m. the next day. Additional track work will continue through June, though transit officials did not explain

what kind of service disruptions would occur.

It is a fate that has met nearby lines such as the G train, which will have intermittent suspensions for the next few weekends, though the G train will be working next week when the L train is out.

And as everyone knows, the F train has been replaced by the shuttle buses several times this year, running many weekends.

According to New York City Transit, the L line is among the city's busiest and fastest-growing subway tubes. The Lorimer Street station increased its ridership by 11.5 percent from 2008 to 2009, the biggest jump in the system.



Former Rep. Vito Fossella had it all back in 1997 when he and his wife Mary had their second child. His success continued through his 2006 re-election and a subsequent visit to Sesame Street. But the rising star crashed after his 2008 drunk-driving arrest (mugshot, right) and a revelation that he had a secret family in Virginia, which resulted in a stunning mea culpa (far right). But he won't return.



## NO, THANKS

**Drunk-driving, love-child-fathering Fossella declines GOP call to run for his old seat**

By Stephen Brown  
The Brooklyn Paper

Disgraced former Rep. Vito Fossella has taken his hat out of the ring for his old Bay Ridge-Staten Island seat — an announcement that came one week after a GOP committee on Staten Island nominated the former lawmaker

for the seat, despite his 2008 drunk-driving arrest that led to subsequent revelations that he had a secret family in Virginia.

"After considering that that involved enjoying life in the private sector, I'm in a place where I need to be and most importantly where I want to be,

so today I've indicated I will not be running," Fossella told us outside his office in Manhattan, where he works at an investment bank.

"Many people have expressed support for me in the last few days," he added. "I'm humbled by that and grateful for it, but I have no plans [to return

to politics]."

The executive committee of the Staten Island GOP had nominated Fossella — the family-values politician who values families so much that he has two of them — to reclaim the seat instead of the two declared GOP candidates already in the race, Staten Islander Mi-

chael Grimm and Brooklynite Michael Allegretti, both of whom are vying to challenge the incumbent, Rep. Mike McMahon (D-Bay Ridge).

The Staten Island committee nomination of Fossella came just one day after the Kings County Republican Party

See VITO on page 10

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Artist: Pamela Beck



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## Folk art by the Yard

By Stephen Witt  
The Brooklyn Paper

Mexico City may have Diego Rivera, but Wallabout has Puerto Rican folk muralist Evelyn Talarico.

The 64-year-old artist's works are transforming walls in the neighborhood into a panorama of tropical waterfalls, Caribbean sunsets, foliage and signature palm trees — all painted from her childhood memories of Puerto Rico.

"Evelyn has turned a non-descript thoroughfare near the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and the Navy Yard into a unique and visually pleasing neighborhood attraction," said L.B. Brown, the owner of Simply Art & Framing Gallery, who will lead tours of Talarico's work every Sunday in June.

Brown said the country scenes are a stark contrast to the other murals in the neighborhood, which are characterized by a gritty urban feel — which makes sense, given that Talarico said she is inspired by her childhood.

"Puerto Rican people keep thanking me because my work reminds them of Puerto Rico and religious people bless me because they say I am painting a new world where everything is calm," said Talarico.

When she first started painting, Talarico only worked on canvases, but always desired to do larger work — and her big break came when a health-care



Muralist Evelyn Talarico shows off her work. A nearby gallery owner will lead tours of her murals every Sunday in June.

clinic commissioned her to do something bright for the children.

That 2008 mural drew the notice of other merchants and building owners who commissioned more work — usually for the cost of paint. Talarico is currently working on her ninth mural in an area bordered by Carlton, Vanderbilt, Myrtle and Flushing avenues.

She doesn't know what it will look like yet.

"I try to do a little a story, but when I start on a wall

I have now idea what will come until I start painting grass and trees and water," she said.

The Mural Walk begins in

front of Smiling Faces Day-care (381 Myrtle Ave. at Clermont Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 857-0074). Sundays in June at 2 p.m. Free.

## DOGS...

Continued from page 1

dog-walkers will no longer be wagging their tails on the wrong side of the law.

Brown and her 185 supporters had long been desperate for a place to let their pooches run free — but as the park became more popular among dog walkers, the city began to take notice of the renegade operation, issuing tickets and finally locking the park shut last month.

"That ignited everyone," said Brown.

The dog-lovers swamped officials with letters in support of the project, and then came the important approval from the community board last week.

"This is more than a dog

run, but an amenity that helps build community and community," CBT District Manager Jeremy Lauffer told the Parks Department last week.

If all goes as planned, Brown and her pack will have their dog run — though they will be on the book for all maintenance and beautification.

But Brown said she had plenty of volunteers eager to chip in as a dog getting ready to go for a walk.

"We have over 30 volunteers," she said. "They'll go to the park the first Monday of the month and look for any ... feces that weren't picked up."

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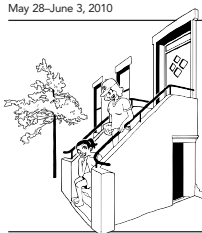
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# THE stool

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

## FORT GREENE



The city has come up with a plan to make Flushing Avenue safer: a two-way protected bike lane — and a continuation of two-way car traffic.

## Flushing Ave gets bike lane

By Andy Campbell

The Brooklyn Paper

The city has abandoned its controversial plan to convert Flushing Avenue to a one-way street to accommodate a two-way bike lane, unveiling a new scheme this week that will maintain two-way car flow, yet still provide for a bike lane.

Department of Transportation officials revealed the new proposal to Community Board 2 on Tuesday night — providing two-way car scheme between Kent Avenue and Navy Street, yet adding a two-way protected bike lane, a jersey barrier and buffer zones between cars and their cycling messmates (and vice-versa).

"We have really gone out of our way on this one — we're trying to make everyone happy," said Ted Wright, senior project manager for the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway project that's overseen by the Department of Transportation.

In March, the department proposed to slow down traffic and ease high volumes of bikers by converting traffic flow to one-way going westbound on the stretch. But Wright said the department got plenty of flak from drivers and residents of the nearby Navy Yard, who would be forced to bow to bikers and exit Flushing Avenue in one direction.

If approved, the new proposal would work in two phases. The first — which includes two different sets of bike and buffer elements on either side of Washington Avenue — is a quick fix that's within the department's current budget, and would provide "safety right now," Wright said.

The second phase would combine the two segments of the stretch over a few years, adding additional barrier structures and foliage along its medians.

Here's how the interim phase would work: West of Washington Avenue (the longer stretch), workers would simply install a bike lane on each side of the road, with a three-foot barrier between cars and cyclists. East of the avenue — which is heavily trafficked from the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and Williamsburg — there would be a two-way bike lane on one side protected by a jersey barrier, as well as an additional bike lane on the other side of the road and a parking lane.

Wright told the committee that the third bike lane was to benefit the inevitable bikers who chose the other side of the road, but later admitted that it's really a temporary use to get ready for the build-out of the second phase. He also mentioned that the "heavily underused" Ryerson Street bus stop would be eliminated in the first phase.

The committee voted unanimously to support the first phase of the plan — though its vote is only advisory. Drivers at the meeting were content (or at least silent) about the proposal, and bikers said they are ready for the change.

"We can't forget our long-term goal, which is to create a safe pathway for everyone going forward," said Caroline Sampanaro of Transportation Alternatives. "We support this."

## RED HOOK

## City to Hook: Your park is safe!

No PCBs found in soil tests

By Gary Bulso

The Brooklyn Paper

Red Hook Park is no red zone.

Moving quickly after state environmental workers discovered cancer-causing chemicals near the popular park, the city tested the soil — and declared the grounds safe on Wednesday.

Department of Health workers dug down two inches at 18 spots in and around the two soccer fields closest to

the alleged source of the contamination — a defunct plastic additive manufacturing plant at Court and Hallock streets.

None of the samples revealed PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, the once-ubiquitous compounds that were banned in the 1970s after they were discovered to cause cancer.

The operator of the plant, the now-bankrupt Chemtura Corporation, is being sued by the state to continue its

## BUSHWICK

## Broadway Triangle suit moves forward

By Aaron Short

The Brooklyn Paper

City officials criticized a judge's ruling last week allowing a lawsuit against a major rezoning initiative to move forward — saying that the decision to allow the suit to continue would delay construction of new housing on the South Williamsburg site.

Justice Emily Goodman's decision, city attorneys argued, could stall development of the Broadway Triangle for several months, endangering state money promised to two nonprofit organizations slated to develop it.

Forty community groups filed a lawsuit in December, accusing the city of discriminating against them by rezoning the area with the strong backing of the City Council.

In suing against a city motion to toss the case, Goodman said that evidence presented by the plaintiffs, the Broadway Triangle Community Coalition, showing a history of public housing discrimination in Williamsburg coupled with the details of the city's plan which included a significant number of large apartments.

"Further development of evidence of anticipated discriminatory impact is also necessary because of the evidence of racial discrimination in public housing in Williamsburg in decades of litigation, suggesting the need for a brighter light," said Goodman. She added that the plaintiff's strongest



Attorney Marty Needelman got good news.

arguments involve the neighborhood's history of public housing discrimination and patterns of selective preference for Williamsburg's Hasidic residents.

Goodman was also sympathetic to complaints that the plan's preponderance of large apartment units, developed by the United Jewish Organization, could lead to discrimination. "With such negligible demand for large apartments

as compared with smaller ones, it is questionable why in such a daunting housing crisis, there is such powerful a commitment, with funds, to construct only large, and, therefore, fewer apartments," said Goodman.

City officials said that Goodman's reading of the law is misguided, as all apartments in the new buildings will be open to Brooklynites regardless of race or ethnicity, though half will be open only to residents living in Community Board 1.

And besides, the judge's decision to allow the case to continue will harm the poor, city attorney Louise Meod said.

"Residents will lose access to a affordable housing if the sites are not developed," she testified.

But the plaintiff's praised Goodman's decision to further examine its data comparing the Broadway Triangle plans to the neighborhood's demographics.

"There's a great demand for smaller apartments coming from an overwhelming minority demographic," said Shekar Krishnan of Brooklyn Legal Services, who is working with Marty Needelman. "That demand is not being met here."

## DUMBO

## Now this is disgusting

More weird dead animals — this time on the beach in Brooklyn Bridge Park

By Stephen Brown

The Brooklyn Paper

A Santeria-style shocker has washed up on the shores of DUMBO — a bag full of dead birds, fish, food and even some cash!

Pro photographer Steve Harris spotted the macabre mess during an otherwise pleasant stroll last Sunday in the park at the foot of Main Street, just east of Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park.

Inside a soaking blue sack were decapitated turkeys, a smaller bird, dead fish, beans, corn, root vegetables, plantains, and six \$1 bills. "I was so horrified," said



Steve Harris says he found a bag animal parts, grains and money in a satin bag on the beach east of the Manhattan Bridge last Sunday.

abandoned clean-up of PCBs, which were discovered seven feet underground and in groundwater near the park, court papers show.

Despite the city testing, residents were not told on the safety of the park, which is packed with soccer players and food vendor customers every weekend.

"It's very difficult for us to trust the city, particularly with everything that has been dumped on Red Hook," said Pete Morales, a regular park user and co-commissioner of the Red Hook Little League. "The trucks, the cement plant — things we learn about in the last moment. I would like to see more testing."

Harris. "I'm a photographer normally I would go get my tripod and come back and shoot it. But this time I was so taken aback, I took a few iPhone pictures and fled."

A scholar was hesitant to declare that the sack of spooky stuff was without a doubt an example of the syncretic religion. "I don't want to jump to the conclusion that anytime there is a dead animal in a bag, it's Santeria," he said. Miguel de la Torre, a professor at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver. "Many times there are copycats who don't understand the religious traditions."

Birds are not typically decapitated, he said. "If you make a sacrifice, you sacrifice the whole animal," he said. "The only time you cut the animal is if you're going to eat it."

The scholar said a blue bag corresponds to a different god — Yamaya, of course. This offering should have been in a yellow bag, for the goddess Oshun, the flirtatious deity.

The scholar also had no explanation for the cash. "Copper pennies are more typical for Ochun," he said. "But someone could be making an offering by throwing a few bucks in there."

This is far from the first time an unsettling Santeria discovery has shocked a gentrified neighborhood. Just last year, a severed pig's head left outside of Green-Wood Cemetery along with candles.

Harris, for his part, was all for freedom of religion, he just preferred that such practices be kept indoors.

"If you're going to do these things to these animals that's their thing," Harris said. "But don't throw it somewhere where kids will see it by the playground!"

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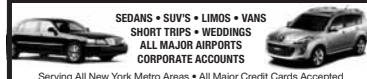
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# Hot cakes, foul mood at McD's

**88TH PRECINCT**  
**Fort Greene-Clinton Hill**  
Talk about an unhappy meal!

A customer wiggled out at a Flatbush Avenue Extension McDonald's on May 17 when workers at the fast food giant weren't moving fast enough for him.

Police said that the man entered the eatery between DeKalb Avenue and Fulton Street just after it opened at 5:30 a.m.

After waiting for a few minutes for his hotcakes, the early riser began to complain. Then, in a fit of rage, he yanked a credit card scanner off the counter, striking a 40-year-old manager in the process, said police, who arrested the disgruntled diner at the scene.

### Tube terror

A thief pulled a gun on a 25-year-old woman during a mugging at the Nevins Street station on May 17, but was kind enough to leave her ID when she asked.

Police said that the stranger-hanger was taking the underpass to the Brooklyn-bound platform at 11 a.m. when the thug flashed his gun and demanded her property.

"Don't make this hard on yourself," he said.

The woman did as he asked, but begged to keep her ID, which he forked over before escaping toward the exit.

### Metro menaces

A thieving trio popped a 36-year-old stranger during an attempted robbery on May 23.

The victim said he was putting money inside a Metcard dispenser at the Nevins Street station at 1:10 a.m. when he was spotted by three teens hanging out by the turnstile.

One of the suspects approached and demanded the man's money, but the victim refused to comply. The thug then demanded the wallet, but the victim still refused, prompting the menace to reach into his pants pocket as if he had a gun.

The victim backed away, but not fast enough to avoid the punch that the teen threw before jumping the turnstile and escaping to an awaiting train with his friends.

### Silent steal

Two thugs took an iPhone off a 30-year-old on May 21 after they threatened to hurt

## POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at [BrooklynPaper.com/blotter](http://BrooklynPaper.com/blotter)

### 77TH PRECINCT

#### Prospect Heights

#### Wild ride

A crazed motorist nearly ran over a 35-year-old pedestrian on May 19 — then stopped the car and lunged at him with a pair of scissors when the man critiqued his driving.

Police said that the 44-year-old motorist was weaving all over the road near Flatbush Avenue and Park Place at 12:30 p.m. when he cut off several cars and nearly hit his victim, who was standing on the curb waiting for the light to change.

When the victim yelled at the wanna-be rock star to calm down, the suspect hit the brakes, jumped out of the car and threatened to cut him with the scissors.

Stunned witnesses called police, who quickly put the brakes on any more driving misadventures.

— Thomas Tracy

### 94TH PRECINCT

#### Greenpoint-Williamsburg

#### Club assault

A teen terror smashed a wine bottle over another man's head at The Charleston on May 16 and the other perp struck back with a skateboard.

The fight began outside the Bedford Avenue bar near N. Seventh Street at 10 p.m. when the men got in a heated argument and resorted to the weapons they had on hand.

Both men traded each other's heads, suffered lacerations, and were promptly arrested.

#### Choked up

Two thugs choked a man at gunpoint before robbing him on Front Street on May 17.

The perps approached their victim near Humboldt Street at 4:55 a.m. and began choking the man as one robber said, "Don't move, where the cash?"

They pushed the man to the ground and removed his cash and phone.

Then the other flashed a pistol and said, "Don't get up and follow us."

#### Meeker thief

A burglar broke into two apartments in the same

Meeker Avenue building on May 18 while the tenants were at work.

The thief entered the house, which is near Russell Street, sometime between 9:30 a.m. and 9 p.m., and stole a computer and a plasma-screen television from one apartment, and grabbed several tools from another.

#### Apple gone

A thief broke into a Manhattan Avenue apartment on May 19, taking a laptop.

The victim told cops that she was taking a shower inside her unit, which is near Driggs Avenue, at 12:45 p.m. when the crook entered through the unlocked door.

When she got out, still dripping, she discovered that her computer and cell phone had been taken.

#### Camera crook

A burglar stole electronic goodies from a Driggs Avenue apartment on May 20.

The victim said she was not in her apartment, which is near N. Fifth Street, between 11:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. when the thug entered through an unlocked door and took a camcorder, camera, and laptop.

### Musical theft

A perp broke into a car parked on Driggs Avenue, stealing several musical instruments.

The victim parked his car N. 10th Street on May 19 at 11 p.m. and returned two days later at 9:15 p.m. to find that the passenger-side window broken and his instruments missing.

— Aaron Short

### 90TH PRECINCT

#### Williamsburg-Bushwick

#### Robber barons

Two thieves snatched a woman's phone on Lorimer Street on May 22 before she chased them down and got punched in the face for the effort.

The perps approached their victim near Ainslie Street at 5 p.m. when they grabbed her iPhone and fled down Ainslie Street. The victim ran after them, but one perp punched her in the right side of her face.

Fortunately, a good Samaritan ran after the perps, grabbed the phone back and retrieved it.

See BLOTTER on page 12

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

May 28-June 3, 2010

# United 'Nations'

Annual Native-American festival adds some Samoans

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

Finally, someone has put the snow in pow wow. And that means a half-naked man in a loincloth juggling a two-headed torch. "It's pretty dangeroous—a way of showing the prowess and fearlessness of a warrior and his agility," said Cliff Mathias, director of the Redhawk Arts Council, which will sponsor the Samoan "Fire Knife" dance as part of its three-day "Gateway to Nations" Native American festival, starting on June 4. The all-weekend event brings together more than 1,000 Native American artists, performers and educators, demonstrating the finest in Native American song, dance, drumming, food and art. Spectacles don't all feature fire, but they're all exciting, including the Men's Fancy War, where men spin furiously with a circle of eagle feathers on their backs; the Hoop Dance, performers use small hoops to create shapes of animals while they dance to traditional drumming and singing groups from northern Canada. The visual element of the festival is another draw, said Mathias, thanks to the colorful regalia of the performers—from giant feather headpieces to buckskin dresses. "It's a modern take on our old styles,"



Fire it up: The colorful regalia is a prominent feature of "Gateway to Nations," on June 4 at Floyd Bennett Field.

said Mathias. "We still dance and sing the same, but we do use a lot of bright colors, which I think a lot of people are surprised by when they come to the pow wow." Indeed, the majority of the attendees are not of Native American descent (especially since Brooklyn's American Indian population comprises half a percent of the borough's population), but merely

show up to experience the culture and authentic Native American cuisine, including buffalo burgers, venison stew, corn soup and fry bread. This year, the festival, which typically has a strong emphasis on Native American culture of New York state, will be branching out to encompass indigenous people from outside the U.S., in-

cluding a performance by a Polynesian dance troupe. "Gateway to Nations" at the Gateway National Recreation Area Floyd Bennett Field (50 Aviation Rd. off Flatbush Avenue in Marine Park, (718) 258-0324), Friday, June 4, 10-5 pm; Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6, 11 am-7 pm. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$7 for seniors and children (6 and under free). For info, visit [www.redhawkcouncil.org](http://www.redhawkcouncil.org).

## EXHIBIT

### Home run!

For Brooklyn baseball fans, the Dodgers' 1957 move to California was as knee-buckling as a wicked curveball. But for true baseball fans, the love never left.

Starting on June 3, the Brooklyn Historical Society rekindles the flame with "Home Base: Memories of the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field."

Digging deep into its extensive Dodger collection, the Brooklyn Heights-based society has pulled out memorabilia from the borough's baseball heyday at the Flatbush diamond, including team photos, ticket stubs, old scorebooks from the 19th century, uniforms, baseball cards, and even seats from the Bedford Avenue ballpark, Ebbets Field.

In addition to the priceless memorabilia, the exhibition explores the complex relationship between the Dodgers and their home borough. Because here we are, more than 50 years after the fact, and we're still talking about the one that got away.

"Home Base: Memories of the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field" at the Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Piermont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-1241), June 3-April 24, 2011. — Ben Kochman

## MARKET

### Edgy crafts

The Renegade Craft Fair will rock McCarran Park on June 5 and 6, when 300 artists display and sell their handmade unique designs.

"There's something for everybody," said Sue Daly, the event's organizer. "You'll find a lot of homebrews, clothing and ceramics. A lot of the stuff is one of a kind."

That's a great way to describe Greenpoint resident Duina Platan's ceramics collection. Her "bread and butter" piece is a set of salt and pepper shakers shaped like an avocado.



"I've been making them for three years now and they're really a hit," she said.

Speaking of best-selling designs, Tamara Stoddard's Brooklyn Craft line is giving a fresh look to classic sock monkey dolls.

"They're a new take on the old sock monkey with the red mouth," she said. "I've made an albino sock monkey, a skeleton with felt bones, and a pirate with a peg leg and eyepatch."

Renegade Craft Fair at McCarran Park (Bedford Avenue between N. 12th and Lorimer streets in Greenpoint, (773) 227-2071), June 5-6, 11 am-7 pm. For info, visit [www.renegadecraft.com](http://www.renegadecraft.com). — Michèle De Meglio

## FESTIVAL

### Get 'Hook'ed

The 17th annual Red Hook Fest brings music and dance to South Brooklyn—from Coffey Park to the pier.

"We're bringing world-class professional artists to Red Hook, people you might see at BAM for \$50," said Jon Mayer of Dance Theater Ebbets Field, which produces the free festival on June 4 and 5.

On the music end will be M.U.G.A.B.E.E., a Mississippi-based hip-hop/jazz/soul super-power fronted by brothers Carlton and Maurice Turner.

There will also be performances from the dance companies Decadence and the Red Hook-based Cora Dance, and the tapping, rapping Joseph Webb (pictured), a veteran of Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk.

For the first time in the festival's history, festivities will be held at Coffey Park, in addition to the Valentino Pier, in an effort to bridge the divided neighborhood: the front, comprised of one of the largest housing projects in Brooklyn, and the back, made up mostly of newer transplants to the neighborhood.

"People in the front feel like they're not welcome in the back," said Mayer. "But what the festival does every year is bring people together."

Red Hook Fest at Coffey Park (Richards and Pioneers streets), June 4 from 6-9 pm, and Valentino Pier (Coffey and Ferris streets), June 5 from 11 am-7 pm. For info, visit [www.redhookfest.com](http://www.redhookfest.com). — Meredith Deliso

## Our studio city

Bushwick artists throw open aeries

By Aaron Short  
The Brooklyn Paper



Gabbe Grodin is always colorful.

Brooklyn's premier artists' studio tour returns this summer—and it is entirely free. Bushwick Open Studios, the two-day arts festival in June, is larger than ever with 275 individual shows in studios, galleries, and streets, featuring some of the most exciting artists in Bushwick and Williamsburg. Seeing so many people on the street in her neighborhood is what Chloe Bass, of the group Arts in Bushwick, looks forward to the most.

"It's really fun when someone says my house is open to you and anyone else, see how I make work here, how I love and what I do here," said Bass. It's a sprawling festival, so it is impossible to see everything, but there are some highlights.

Several new galleries, including Storefront and Famous Accountants, will feature new



Big art: Check out Art Guerra's liquid-pigment paintings at the Bushwick Open Studio tour this June. Guerra is also a kickball legend.

shows. The elder statesman of the Bushwick art scene, Factory Fresh, is throwing a solo show for Skewville, while English Kills will

celebrate its three-year anniversary, featuring its favorite Bushwick artists.

The future of Bushwick may be at stake at a Saturday afternoon panel, moderated by our own Aaron Short, where community leaders will hash out challenges the neighborhood faces regarding housing, industry, and immigration.

For those interested in rocking out and reading up, a music festival returns to Good-bye Blue Monday and the 2010 Cabaret is back on Scholes Street, while a new literary fair will be held at 3rd Ward Brooklyn.

Perhaps the weirdest show will be hosted by BabySkinGlove, which will give guests a performance art makeover at the Morgan Avenue studio. Suggested donation is \$1.69.

Of course, the most exciting aspect of the festival will be the artwork in open studios itself. That is why artists and art patrons keep coming back to Bushwick Open Studios year after year, says festival organizer Laura Braslow.

"Every year we see some of the same faces. Seeing a lot of artists we had in 2007, who are still in the festival, give it feeling of continuity," said Braslow.

So take it all in and bring your BlackBerry to monitor where you're going by logging onto the festival's live-updated Web site. Otherwise, and old-fashioned printed program with a map of every studio in the neighborhood will do just fine.

Bushwick Open Studios, June 4-6, noon to 10 pm. For info, visit [www.bos2010.artsinbushwick.org](http://www.bos2010.artsinbushwick.org).

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STERIOD MAXIMUS  
DR. LONNIE SMITH TRIO  
SAT • 6/19  
7:30  
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MIKE STERN TRIO

**THUR • 6/24 • 7:30**  
Orquesta Buena Vista Social Club  
with Omara Portuondo | Nelida Tirado

**FRI • 6/25 • 7:30**  
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Bring a folding chair, a blanket and a picnic lunch. Hamburgers, hotdogs, snacks, drinks and Historic Fund merchandise and books will be available for sale.

Support historic Green-Wood by becoming a member of the Green-Wood Historic Fund. Memberships start at \$30.

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# HERE TO GO

## EDITORS' PICKS

**FRIDAY**  
May 28

**SUNDAY**  
May 30

**THURSDAY**  
June 3

**FRIDAY**  
June 4

**SATURDAY**  
June 5

### Wolf pack

If you only know Peter Wolf from his anthemic lead singing for the J. Geils Band, you don't know this 64-year-old folk rock legend. Yes, he made his name singing "Freeze Frame," "Centerfold" and "Love Stinks," but if you pull out one of his seven solo albums, you'll really appreciate how great he is. Listen to "Wastin' Time" from the 1996 LP "Wolf" and you'll know what we mean.

7:30 pm, Peter Wolf at The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6503). Tickets are \$30.

### Astro-panned

J.L. Aronson captured the last days of Astroland in his documentary, "Last Summer at Coney Island"—a swan song for Coney, even as the amusement area is set to be reborn this summer. Will Coney's future be as bright as the rock legend? To answer that, it's best to first look back.

7:30 pm, "Last Summer at Coney Island" benefits at UnionDocs (322 Union Ave. at Major Street in Williamsburg, (718) 395-7902). Tickets \$9-\$20 (sliding scale donation). For info, visit [www.lastsummeratconeyisland.com](http://www.lastsummeratconeyisland.com).



### Try this at home

Lev Grossman is no magician—except in his books. The Clinton Hill resident celebrates the paperback edition of his astounding book, "The Magicians," with a reading at powerHouse. The novel—a "Harry Potter" for grown-ups—thanks to its dollops of sex, drugs and dark magic has been hailed by critics for its flair. Better news? A sequel is in the works!

7 pm, Lev Grossman at powerHouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3404).

### 'Key' party

The arts group Creative Time has taken the ceremonial "key to the city" concept and democratized it. Starting now, you can pick up a key at various locations around town and use it to actually unlock secret places throughout the five boroughs—including a room at the Brooklyn Museum and a locker at Gleason's Gym in DUMBO. The project is a comment about opening up the city to everyone—which is nice, because not everyone is Derek Jeter.

To find out where to pick up your "Key to the City," visit [www.creativetime.org](http://www.creativetime.org).

### Right on Target

This month's First Saturday freebie at the Brooklyn Museum is a mini-classic. Yes, the usual mix of music, dance, art and authors will be on hand, but the highlight is clearly Audrey Hepburn and Fred Astaire in "Funny Face," the classic musical about a high-fashion photographer and a newly discovered model.

5–11 pm, Target First Saturday at the Brooklyn Museum (200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000).

# NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

**FRI, MAY 28**

**MUSIC, BLUE FISH:** \$5 (suggested donation), 6–8:30 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (481 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622). [www.puppetsjazz.com](http://www.puppetsjazz.com)

**THEATER, "FIORELLINO":** The classic musical about our former mayor. 8 pm. Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between Jorlemont and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 237-2752). [www.heightsplayers.org](http://www.heightsplayers.org)

**TOUR, "ICE-MASKING THE BRIDGES":** Soundwalk led by Dan Leamon that explores the small triangle between the Brooklyn Bridge and the Manhattan Bridge. \$25. 7 pm. PowerHouse Arena (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3404). [www.thebellhouse.com](http://www.thebellhouse.com)

**THEATER, "PASSION PLAY":** Sarah Ruhl's drama about religion and politics through the ages. 7:30 pm. Lord-Carter Center (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233). [www.apc-theatreensemble.org/current-show](http://www.apc-theatreensemble.org/current-show)

**BAM DANCEAFRICA 2010:** Traditional Zambian music and dance, presented by Pamboli Dance Troupe from Zambia, Africa. Philadelphia-based hip-hop group Bayle & Peace Productions and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. \$20 (half price for children 16 and under). 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (115 Lafayette Ave. at 5th St. in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100). [www.bam.org](http://www.bam.org)

**MUSIC, PETER WOLF:** \$30. 7:30 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6503). [www.thebellhouse.com](http://www.thebellhouse.com)

**MUSIC, FULTE PERCUSSION DUO CONOR NELSON AND AYANO KATAOKA:** Perform to mark the release of their CD, "Breaking Training." 7:30 pm. First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn (124 Henry St. between Clark and Pierrepont streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-3770). [www.musicfirsttote.com](http://www.musicfirsttote.com)

**COMEDY NIGHT:** Hosted by Nick Turner (College Humor) and Jason Saez (DC Comedy Festival). Free. 8 pm. Casola (66 Greenpoint Ave. between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint, (917) 807-0495). [www.mpspace.com/casola](http://www.mpspace.com/casola)

**MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT:** Sections from Haydn, Dvořák and Aegensky, with pianist Steven Beck. \$35 (\$30 seniors, \$15 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Fuman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). [www.bargemusic.org](http://www.bargemusic.org)

**MUSIC, BROOKLYN COUNTY FAIR 2010:** With Frankenspin, JD Duarte and Friends, The Birchbe Boys, and Ciggras. \$10. 8 pm. Jolopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214). [www.jolopy.biz](http://www.jolopy.biz)

**MUSIC, "FULL OF LIFE NOW":** The Whitman Project and America Opera Projects presents a celebration of the 150th anniversary of Whitman's "Calamus." Free.



**Toy soldiers:** "Kamp" by Holland's Hotel Modern looks to be one of the more powerful pieces at this year's Toy Theater Festival. The pieces runs from June 2–6 at St. Ann's Warehouse in DUMBO.

(suggested donation). 8 pm. ART'AY (138 S. Oxford St. between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 391-8824). [www.thewhitehouseproject.org](http://www.thewhitehouseproject.org)

**SAT, MAY 29**  
**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**  
**TOUR, URBAN DIVERS ESTUARY CONSERVANCY:** Showcasing the Estuary of Lower East childhood fairytale. \$20 (kids \$10). 2 pm and 7 pm. 303 Bond Street Theatre (303 Bond St. between Seckett and Union streets in Carroll Gardens). [www.companysw.com](http://www.companysw.com)

**PERFORMANCE**  
**THEATER, "FIORELLINO":** 8 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**DANCE, "LE CIRQUE FERROQUE":** Re-magining of lower east childhood fairytale. \$20 (kids \$10). 2 pm and 7 pm. 303 Bond Street Theatre (303 Bond St. between Seckett and Union streets in Carroll Gardens). [www.companysw.com](http://www.companysw.com)

**THEATER, "PASSION PLAY":** 2 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**SUN, MAY 30**  
**State of Coney Island:** Click Zign gives his annual overview. \$5. 4:30 pm. Coney Island Museum (1208 Surf Ave. in Coney Island, (718) 372-5799). [www.coneyisland.com](http://www.coneyisland.com)

**WED, JUNE 2**  
**Community Board 1 Executive committee:** Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Community Board 1 office (435 Graham Ave. between Frost and Richardson streets in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009).

**THURS, JUNE 3**  
**Community Board 1 Public Safety committee:** 6:30 pm. Community Board 1 office (435 Graham Ave. between Frost and Richardson streets in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009).

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**http://**  
Find lots more listings online at [BrooklynPaper.com/Events](http://BrooklynPaper.com/Events)

Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214). [www.jolopy.biz](http://www.jolopy.biz)

**MUSIC, MAGGIE BROWN AND ORGUP:** Memorial Day and African liberation Day concert. \$25 (\$20 in advance). 9 pm and 10:30 pm. Sister Place (656 Nostrand Ave. at Jefferson Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 986-1764). [www.sisterplace.org](http://www.sisterplace.org)

**MUSIC, MANDINGO AMBASSADORS:** \$10. 8:30 pm. Jolopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214). [www.jolopy.biz](http://www.jolopy.biz)

**SALES AND MARKETS**  
**PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET:** Brooklyn's answer to Union Square. 9 am–4 pm. Grand Army Plaza and Union Street at Flatbush Avenue in Park Slope, (212) 788-7900). [www.cenyc.org](http://www.cenyc.org)

**PS 321 FLEA MARKET:** Free. 9 am–5 pm. PS 321 schoolyard (Seventh Avenue and First Street in Park Slope). [www.parksideflea.com](http://www.parksideflea.com)

**ARTISTS AND FLEAS:** Free. Noon–8 pm. Artists and Fleas (129 N. South St. between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg). [www.artistandfleas.com](http://www.artistandfleas.com)

**FULTON FLEA:** Free. 11 am–7 pm. (550 Fulton St. between Broadway and 1st St. in Fort Greene, (917) 364-5648). [www.fultonflea.com](http://www.fultonflea.com)

**BROOKLYN PLAZA FULTON FLEA:** Free. 11 am–7 pm. Brooklyn Plaza (Medical Center parking lot) (650 Fulton St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (917) 364-5648). [www.fultonflea.com](http://www.fultonflea.com)

**SUN, MAY 30**  
**PERFORMANCE**  
**THEATER, "FIORELLINO":** 2 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**DANCE, "LE CIRQUE FERROQUE":** 2 pm and 5 pm. See Saturday, May 29.

**THEATER, INTERNATIONAL TOY THEATER FESTIVAL:** Colossal celebration of toy art. \$25. 3–7 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse (38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779). [www.stannwarehouse.org](http://www.stannwarehouse.org)

**MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT:** 3 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**BAM DANCEAFRICA 2010:** 3 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**MUSIC, MENAGE A TWANG:** All-girl, comic country. 8:30 pm. Pete's Candy Store (709 Lorimer St. at Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3770). [www.petescandystore.com](http://www.petescandystore.com)

Online at [www.BrooklynPaper.com](http://www.BrooklynPaper.com)

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Park Slope Paper, Sunset Park Paper, Windsor Terrace Paper.

**NORTH BROOKLYN ZONE**  
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**BAY RIDGE ZONE**  
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# A great 'Day' out

Find music, food and more this May 31

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

Memorial Day means a three-day weekend for most of us—but why head to the beach when you can stay in Brooklyn? Here's how to have fun while everyone else is taking in the sun:

## Annual concert

Mark the day patriotically through song, with a concert by the ISO Symphonic Band at the Green-Wood Cemetery.

The inspired set will feature select compositions by Green-Wood Cemetery's permanent residents—Fred Ebb, Leonard Bernstein, Louis Moreau Gottschalk, and Paul Jabara. Bring your own picnic lunch and blanket and make

an afternoon of it. While you're at the cemetery, stick around for the post-concert trolley tour, led by Green-Wood historian Jeff Richman and traveling to the cemetery's most interesting spots, learn more about its permanent residents, and take in one of the best views of the Manhattan skyline in Brooklyn.

**Memorial Day Concert at Green-Wood Cemetery** (25th Street and Fifth Avenue, (718) 768-7300), May 31 at 2:30 pm. Free. Memorial Day Trolley Tour to follow at 4:30 pm. Tickets \$10. Reservations recommended. For info, visit green-wood.com.

## Parked

The B'KLYN Yard in Gowanus isn't just a great space to boogie on a Sunday afternoon, thanks to its premiere DJ dance series Sunday Best; it also

boasts some top-notch foodie events, starting with Parked on May 31. Get full on great eats from the city's best food trucks, including traveling pizza vendor Pizzamotto, selections from the Greenpoint Food Market vendors, and Rickshaw Dimpplings for the main event. For dessert, there's almost too much to choose from, from Steve's Key Lime Pie to Robicelli Cupcakes to Van Leeuwen

## Your guide to local parades

And if you want a traditional Memorial Day, hit one of the four parades around our town:

**Canarsie Memorial Day Parade**  
May 31 at 11:30 am

**START: 92nd Street and Conklyn Avenue**

**Gerritsen Beach Memorial Day Parade**  
May 31 at 10 am

**START: Gerritsen Avenue and Whitney Avenue**

## Greenpoint

May 30 at 9 pm

**START: Manhattan Avenue and Kings Avenue**

**Driggs County Memorial Day Parade in Bay Ridge**  
May 31 at 11 am

**START: 67th Street and Third Avenue**



Shake It: They'll be dancing in the street this Memorial Day thanks to BAM's DanceAfrica festival.

Artisan Ice Cream (which has branched out into a permanent cupcake, with a store in

Greenpoint). To help wash it all down, try the freshly made drinks from the Green

Pirate Juice Truck. Parked at B'KLYN Yard (388 Canal St., between

Bond and Nevins streets in Gowanus, no phone), May 31 from 2-9 pm. For info, visit www.bklynyard.com.

## DanceAfrica

There will be dancing in the street this Memorial Day, thanks to BAM's DanceAfrica festival.

Dance troupes from Zambia, Dallas, Philadelphia and Brooklyn's own BAM Restoration DanceAfrica Ensemble will entertain at the Fort Greene venue, performing traditional dance and music to hip hop.

The day will also feature film screenings, an art exhibition, and an outdoor bazaar, with nearly 300 vendors from around the world transforming the streets around BAM into a global marketplace offering African, Caribbean, and African-American food, crafts and fashion.

Truth be told, the African cultural festival doesn't really have anything to do with Memorial Day, but it's not a bad way to spend your day off.

**DanceAfrica at BAM** (30 Lafayette Ave., between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 638-4100), May 31. Times and ticket costs vary. For info, visit www.bam.org.

## Eat TURKISH at Taze Restaurant

• Enjoy Mediterranean, Ottoman and Turkish Culture and Cuisine in Brooklyn Heights

• Lunch starting at \$5.50

• Three Course Lunch Special \$12.99 with free glass of wine or dessert\*

• 15% discount for dinner Mon–Thurs\*

• Outdoor Garden Dining

• Corporate Accounts and Catering

• Free Delivery

\*Must bring in to mention this day

142 Montague St., 2nd Fl.

(bet. Clinton & Henry)

Brooklyn Heights

(718) 875-2211

Serving lunch & dinner 7 days

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

**SALES AND MARKETS** PS 321 FLEA MARKET: 7 am–5 pm. See Saturday, May 29.

**ARTISTS AND FLEAS:** Noon–8 pm. See Saturday, May 29.

**FARMERS MARKET:** Free. 11 am–5 pm. J.I. Birney Park (Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street in Park Slope).

**FULTON FLEA:** 11 am–7 pm. See Saturday, May 29.

**BROOKLYN KAZA FULTON FLEA:** 11 am–7 pm. See Saturday, May 29.

**OTHER** TALK, "LEGACIES": Discussion led by Tasha Paley. Deep group reflection about the meaning, joy

and responsibility. Free. 11 am–12:30 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2922).

**SLIDING SCALE DONATION:** 7:30 pm. UnionDocs (222 Union Ave. at Mauger Street in Williamsburg, www.uniondocs.org).

**MON, MAY 31** Memorial Day

**BAM DANCEAFRICA 2010:** 3 pm. See Friday, May 28.

**MUSIC: TOY SCHEER AND SPECIAL GUESTS:** 5:59 pm. Jalopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton St. and Woodhull Street

in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz).

**MUSIC, CHICHA LIBRE:** Mixture of Latin rhythms, surf music and more. Free. 6–9 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. South of 4th Avenue in Bed Hook, (718) 965-9177), www.barbesbrooklyn.com.

**TUES, JUNE 1** SHOW, "THE ON AND ON": Free. 6–8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (181 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622), www.puppetsjazz.com.

**MUSIC, "ONE ON ONE":** Free. 6–8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (181 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622), www.puppetsjazz.com.

**HEALTHY, FREE YOGA:** Offered by Yoga Studio. Free. 6:30 pm. The Greenpoint Yoga Studio (388 Atlantic Ave. at 6th Street in Red Hook, (718) 643-6790 x113).

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**MUSIC: TOY SCHEER AND SPECIAL GUESTS:** 5:59 pm. Jalopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton St. and Woodhull Street

in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214, www.jalopy.biz).

**MUSIC, CHICHA LIBRE:** Mixture of Latin rhythms, surf music and more. Free. 6–9 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. South of 4th Avenue in Bed Hook, (718) 965-9177), www.barbesbrooklyn.com.

**TUES, JUNE 1** SHOW, "THE ON AND ON": Free. 6–8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (181 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622), www.puppetsjazz.com.

**MUSIC, "ONE ON ONE":** Free. 6–8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (181 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622), www.puppetsjazz.com.

**HEALTHY, FREE YOGA:** Offered by Yoga Studio. Free. 6:30 pm. The Greenpoint Yoga Studio (388 Atlantic Ave. at 6th Street in Red Hook, (718) 643-6790 x113).

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# Shazzam!

Waterfront circus series returns Sundays in June

By Meredith Deliso  
The Brooklyn Paper

It's showtime on the showboat!  
The popular Sunday circus series returns to the Waterfront Museum, a restored barge on the Red Hook waterfront, with a whole new season of acrobats, aerialists and jugglers in "Showboat Shazzam!"

For families acquainted with the barge and its variety

show CIRCUSundays, have no fear: this is the same show, but with the name changed for fundraising purposes (apparently, state agencies aren't so keen on giving grants to anything with the word circus in it).

As in past years, the show will include a variety of acts for a full circus experience right at your feet.

"It's the closest parents and children will be to circus performers," said Karen



Liftoff: Acrobats Rudy & Lea pull off incredible feats of strength in their act. See them June 6 at the Waterfront Museum.

Gersch, artistic director of the show, now in its 14th season on the barge. "It's that

proximity and intimacy that makes our series so successful." (Successful, indeed. Last year, Brooklyn Paper reviewer Thurston Dooley III couldn't stop raving.)

This year's series starts on June 6 with the comedy trio Filget, Look & Tate; eccentric juggler Will Shaw; acrobats Rudy & Lea; aerialist Hilary Sweeney, who does character acrobatics; and Rudi Macaggi, a winner of "America's Got Talent" who performs comedy acrobatics.

Other highlights of the month-long series include a pirate—Billy Bones the Good Pirate! (June 13)—Professor Phineas Feelgood's Flea Circus (June 20), and David

Sharps, caretaker of the barge, performing a Chinese vase manipulation act (June 13).

"It's always great to see the barge fill up with folks who had never been to Red Hook or the barge, as well as those who return every year," said Sharps.

Because luckily, this showboat isn't going anywhere.

Showboat Shazzam! at the Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge (Pier 44 at Conover and Bead streets in Red Hook, (718) 624-4779). Sundays in June at 1 pm and 4 pm. Tickets \$16 for adults, \$12 for kids (in advance). For info, visit [www.waterfrontmuseum.org](http://www.waterfrontmuseum.org).



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## WALMART

Continued from page 1  
Walmart is eyeing.

"I do shop there, but they treat their workers better," said Rosenblum.

Walmart executives have challenged that conventional wisdom, saying that Walmart salaries are competitive with what Target offers to both its full- and part-time workers.

"At Walmart, our associates have real opportunities to advance and build a career," said Walmart President and CEO Mike Duke at the company's June 2009 shareholder meeting. "Nearly three-quarters of store management in the U.S. started with us as hourly associates."

"And when the company does well financially, we share our results with associates," he added. "In fact, for their 2008 performance, we distributed well over a billion dollars worldwide to hourly associates in incentive bonuses."

Workers at Brooklyn's three Target stores reported the starting salary for part-time employees is \$8.50, including options to sign onto a medical and retirement plan.

Similarly, employees at Walmart's North Bergen, N.J. store said that starting salaries for part-time workers ranged from \$8-\$15 per hour, depending on department—also including options to sign up for the medical and retirement plans.

New York Communities for Change, an offshoot of the controversial grassroots organization ACORN, organized the protest, calling in the start of a full-fledged campaign to stop the Bentonville behemoth from coming to the city.

"There will be more events in the future," said organization spokesman Jonathan Westin. "In the future, we will get a lot of City Council people and more community support against Walmart."

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# HOOKAH...

Continued from page 1

members hope will lead to more regulation at hookah bars, and the creation of a protocol to better enforce and perform testing at existing bars.

The city's landmark Smoke-Free Air Act does cover hookah bars — if there's tobacco in the pipes. But the Health Department conceded that it rarely undertakes tobacco testing because it is expensive.

"The Health Department responds to complaints regarding these establishments in the same way as with all other food-service establishments," said a spokeswoman.

"If they are found in violation of the Smoke-Free Air Act, they may be issued violations and suspension or revocation of their permit."

A manager at Your House café and hookah lounge at Fourth Avenue and 69th Street said the business makes every effort to eliminate secondhand smoke, pointing to a ventilator that carries the cloud "three stories" up.

"All the people around here are our friends," he said. "We've never received any complaints from our neighbors."

The manager, who refused to give his name, claimed the

sneakable material is "flavored tobacco — with no nicotine." The city last year passed legislation banning the sale of flavored tobacco products — but tobacco used in pipes and hookahs was exempted.

Your House offers shisha in a tasty array of flavors, including mint, watermelon, strawberry, pineapple, and apple.

Officials admitted that they are unsure what action to take, but Joudah, the Community Board 10 member, demanded a new prohibition.

"[The city should] take out the hookahs in the cafes and lounges and [the bars can] have games people can play if they want to waste their time," he said.

At Your House café and hookah bar on Fourth Avenue, \$8 buys you your choice from a myriad of flavors of shisha, or flavored tobacco, including strawberry, mint, apple, pineapple and watermelon. Your House does its best to create a honey vibe for its patrons — who included one of the heavy-set "regulars" who were watching an Arab soap opera on the TV.

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But it looks like online shoppers checking out Urban's version of the rib cage necklace aren't too concerned about a possible lack of originality. According to the item's page, 325 customers think the necklace is "awesome," 126 think it's "unique," and 82 describe it as "badass."

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I may not have gotten "stoned," but I did get a little bit high at work. And I didn't feel corrupted at all.

By Ben Kochman  
The Brooklyn Paper

Some Bay Ridge residents allege that hookah bars are smoky dens where youth is corrupted and noxious smoke leaks out into the street, causing a nuisance to the community. But after trying a hookah bar out myself — and surfacing from the smoke unscathed, I doubt the legitimacy of these steamy charges.

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# How I got high on the job

Our intern smokes some shisha at a hookah bar

By Ben Kochman

The Brooklyn Paper

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were the victims of a copycat or not, it's a part of the business.

"[Ellen Crowe and I both sell at the Brooklyn Flea where a ton of big designers come through every weekend]," Bradbury said. "It's depressing but inevitable that our designs will be ripped off because we're both really creative."

Still, Urban Outfitters may be worse than most other corporations. A source deep inside the jewelry business said that the retailer knows that it has a reputation for ripping off indie designers.

"When Urban buys something from me, they specifically ask if it's 'inspired by' someone," said the source, who dared not go on the record for fear of endangering a potentially lucrative business relationship. "They know they have this reputation, and are trying to [dispel it]."

But this is an industry that depends on creativity — so much so that Crowe said she did a good deal of research before beginning to produce her three bone-themed bangles.

"I always check to see if anyone has done anything similar before I go into production," Crowe said. "I hadn't seen any ribcage and spine necklaces back in March of 2009."

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By Ben Kochman  
The Brooklyn Paper

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Prepared to abuse my lungs in the name of journalism, I chose apple from the list of flavors and took a seat. Minutes later, a tall man came over and placed a hookah contraption on the table.

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respond to an e-mail or asked not to be included in our diamond-hard coverage. A spokeswoman for Urban Outfitters did not return our repeated calls before our platinum online deadline.

"I think the way the industry works. I took it as legitimizing, in a way," Crowe said. "I leave it up to the consumer, I guess."

Fossella comeback. "Nothing is different for me," said Grimm. "I'm staying focused and I'm not going to be distracted by anything."

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"[Ellen Crowe and I both sell at the Brooklyn Flea where a ton of big designers come through every weekend]," Bradbury said. "It's depressing but inevitable that our designs will be ripped off because we're both really creative."

Still, Urban Outfitters may be worse than most other corporations. A source deep inside the jewelry business said that the retailer knows that it has a reputation for ripping off indie designers.

"When Urban buys something from me, they specifically ask if it's 'inspired by' someone," said the source, who dared not go on the record for fear of endangering a potentially lucrative business relationship. "They know they have this reputation, and are trying to [dispel it]."

But this is an industry that depends on creativity — so much so that Crowe said she did a good deal of research before beginning to produce her three bone-themed bangles.

"I always check to see if anyone has done anything similar before I go into production," Crowe said. "I hadn't seen any ribcage and spine necklaces back in March of 2009."

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